

City of Gresham
Coalition of Neighborhood Associations
April 13, 2010 – Room 2B, Gresham City Hall

as approved
5/11/2010

Meeting Minutes

NEIGHBORHOOD	ATTENDEES	NEIGHBORHOOD	ATTENDEES
ASERT	<i>John Vandermosten</i>	Northeast	<i>NOT ACTIVE</i>
Centennial	<i>Tom Stanley</i>	North Gresham	<i>NOT ACTIVE</i>
Central City	<i>Bob Pung Sr., Clint Holly</i>	Northwest	<i>Diane Wichman</i>
Gresham Butte	<i>Mads Ledet, Bruce Hoyt</i>	Gresham Pleasant Valley	
Hollybrook	<i>NOT ACTIVE</i>	Powell Valley	<i>Tom Griffith</i>
Kelly Creek	<i>Carol Rulla, Charles Teem</i>	Rockwood	<i>John Bildsoe, Catherine Nicewood</i>
Mt. Hood	<i>Anita Daily</i>	Southwest	<i>Suzan Wells</i>
North Central		Wilkes-East	<i>Marc Thornsby</i>
Guests:			

WELCOME

The meeting was called to order by Carol Rulla, Coalition President, at 7:00 pm.

Quorum: Eleven (11) neighborhood associations were represented with elected board members; constituting a quorum.

Approval of Minutes: John Bildsoe moved to approve the minutes of March 9, 2010, as submitted. Mads Ledet seconded. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

NEIGHBORHOOD – CITY NEWS – REPORTS

East County Courthouse letter of support –The planning for this project has been decades in the making. Drawings and plans have been prepared and the county has discussed the dollars available to support the project based on current property valuations. Many favor it being built with the biggest obstacle being money. Two commissioners (McKeel and Shiprack) definitely support funding the project. Former Multnomah County Chair Ted Wheeler also supported it, but it is uncertain if newly appointed Chair Jeff Cogen supports funding the project. Wheeler's former assistant, Barbara Willer, was appointed to Cogen's old commission seat. John Bildsoe encourages everyone to go to the April 22nd meeting – 9:30am at Multnomah County Courthouse – 501 SE Hawthorne Blvd. The current courthouse on Main and Powell is not suitable. Marc Thornsby suggested that for those who cannot be there in person, they could send a letter of support to have it read into the record. Funding options will be the ongoing issue. Call the Multnomah County Commission Chair's office to express your thoughts. The group reviewed a proposed letter of support that had been e-mailed to members before the meeting.

Bob Pung Sr. moved and Marc Thornsby seconded a motion to remove the paragraph concerning the community meeting center and send the letter. Motion passed unanimously.

Budget Committee comment – Suggested that people attend the April 21st meeting @ 6:30pm to provide support for the Community Services' budget. This is the same night as a planning meeting for the East County Information Fair. Bob Pung will attend the budget meeting and read a letter of support. Carol will prepare a letter expressing thanks to Cathy Harrington, Mike Abbate and City Manager, Erik Kvarsten for their support of Neighborhood Associations.

Dog Park – Carol reported that Cheryl Terrien of ASERT made public comment at the Council's April 6 meeting to ask permission to put a dog park into Thom Park. Thom Park is located in the ASERT Neighborhood located to the north of 9th between Hogan and Roberts and East Gresham Grade School. Thom Creek runs through the park. They are looking at the possibility of putting in a dog park in the woodland area within the park.

Planning Department Task Forces – Several Task Forces are currently working on issues such as the Rockwood Design Standards, Our Parks Our Futures, Retail Design and Development Standards, and Downtown Parking. There is another one under the Department of Environmental Services on sustainability. If anyone is interested in these issues staff is soliciting citizen participation.

- ◆ Graffiti is a problem and should be removed right away (within 24 hours if possible). The City does have some products that will help remove graffiti vs. painting over it.
- ◆ Carol reported that letter of support for Google fiber optic competition had to be done via Google's website.
- ◆ Metro East community hotline cable TV program provides 15 minutes to talk about community events and projects. Carol and others will be on the April 28th program to discuss the upcoming East Gresham Information Fair scheduled for May 19th at Gordon Russell Middle School. Please take advantage of this opportunity if you want to advertise a neighborhood activity.
- ◆ The Public Safety Committee will be looking at public safety issues through development of a comprehensive public safety report. They will be surveying city departments and would like to come and talk to the Coalition. Mads Ledet has a copy of a survey by the Police Subcommittee.
- ◆ Bob Pung Sr. spoke about Neighborhood Watch. Ask people to look outside before they go to bed and report things even if they are not a part of an official Neighborhood Watch. Carry a cell phone while out walking and call the non-emergency number to report unusual observations. NA Presidents used to receive the information about the new "block captain". Carol has asked Cathy Harrington to send that information to NA Presidents. "Map Your Neighborhood" project is a focus of the Neighborhood Watch block captains.
- ◆ Carol Rulla handed out a grant application, available at any Key Bank, for up to \$5,000 for community projects. Must be submitted by April 30, 2010, and project needs to be completed by May 31, 2010.
- ◆ Gresham Butte NA is going to discuss Solar/Sustainability at a May 10th meeting, 7:00pm at Gresham City Hall.
- ◆ The Attorney General is going around the state talking about public meeting law. One of the issues is to increase transparency. Encourage others to attend. Mads Ledet suggested that this was an opportunity to get the Attorney General to address NA's in public meeting law and liability concerns.

BYLAWS DISCUSSION

Should all NA's have the same by-laws? What if there was a "best practices" model of bylaws that individual neighborhood associations could adopt but could have differences based on their needs. Bylaws can only be amended by each association. Suzan Wells asked if anyone has bylaws that include the Land Use Chair as a member of the board. Some said their bylaws do. Consider more verbiage on duties of each officer. Some members are going to work on reviewing each set of NA bylaws and come up with "best practices" that could be used as a template for bylaws. Marc Thornsbury and Mads Ledet are willing to work on this. Send out an email to ask for others interested in developing information to build a model for neighborhoods to use.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:55pm.

Minutes prepared and submitted by: Anita Daily, GCNA Secretary-Treasurer.

Next meeting: Tuesday, May 11, 2010 – Springwater Trail Room

NOTE: The Gresham Coalition of Neighborhood Associations is referred to in the minutes as either "Coalition" or "GCNA". Neighborhood Associations are referred to in the minutes as either "NA or NA's".